United Nations A/C.4/56/SR.24

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
29 July 2002

Original: English

# Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

**Summary record of the 24th meeting**
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 17 July 2002, at 10.15 a.m.

*Chairman:* Ms. Korpi ..... (Finland)

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Election of the Chairman for the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly

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02-48787 (E)

*The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.*

**Election of the Chairman for the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly**

1. **The Chairman** recalled that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/509 of 8 July 2002, a number of changes had been made to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and that rule 99 now called for all the Main Committees to elect a Chairman at least three months before the opening of the session. However, paragraph 3 of that resolution made specific provision for the fifty-seventh session, for which the Chairmen of the Main Committees were to be elected as early as possible.

2. At its eighteenth meeting on 19 November 2001, the Committee had decided that in the future, it would elect its Bureau on a rotational system based on the English alphabetical order of the regional groups. According to that procedure, the next Chairman should be from the Group of Eastern European States. However, by agreement between the African Group and the Eastern European Group, the next Chairman would be from the African Group.

3. Mr. Maitland (South Africa) had been nominated for election to the office of Chairman for the fifty-seventh session. In the absence of further nominations and in accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure, she would take it that the Committee wished to elect Mr. Maitland (South Africa) Chairman.

4. *Mr. Maitland (South Africa) was elected Chairman by acclamation.*

*The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.*